/388/

369 The city of Thiès, 60 kilometers east of Dakar, contains
433 36,000 inhabitants, according to a recent census. All of its
[162] activity seems to be centered around four principal poles: commercial, industrial, administrative, and military.

Its commercial activity is due to its position at the cross-
[487] roads of important paths of communication: railroad lines from Dakar to Saint-Louis, from Dakar to Bamako, and from Thiès to Kaolack, and roads from Dakar to Saint-Louis and from Dakar to Diourbel, Tambacounda, and the Sudan and Guinea.

It also owes the essential part of its industrial activity to
[498] this implantation at an important rail crossroads; the repair
[464] shops of the Dakar-Niger rail system, where nearly 1,000 workers of all grades are employed, have been set up there.

Apart from the workshops of the Dakar-Niger, it must not
[497] be forgotten that Thiès is also where the management of this
[634] system resides. And it is also the principal administrative point of a circle /cercle, an administrative district/. We will thus find, besides the workers, a rather large proportion of office employees, managers, and executives.

[712] Finally, the military function of Thiès is due to the presence of two important camps: the "DMA" (Détachement Motorisé Autonome), and an air base.

Besides these four centers of activities which give this city a modern character (economically speaking, at least), a fifth
[166] one intervenes in a not inconsiderable proportion. A rather large
[241] population of cultivators, who in winter cultivate groundnuts and millet in nearby fields, has settled on the periphery of Thiès. And the city is the point to which, at the time of the groundnut trade, all of the agricultural activity of the circle comes to assert itself. Its commercial importance is thereby further increased.

162 /389/ Here is some numerical information concerning
463 the occupational distribution of the population of Thiès.

Out of an economically active population of 11,040 inhabitants at the date of the census, there were counted:

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president, but the Governor has the right of addressing it and of deputing high officials to speak to it of the work of their own departments. It appoints a Standing Committee, which can meet to transact business when the full Council is not in session. It is bound, however, to report to its parent body.

FIG. 52. *Senegal: Administrative Divisions*

The Council's powers are wide. It must be consulted on a proposal to create new communes, and it may advise on any matter put before it by the Governor. It may legislate on eight stated topics, which are chiefly concerned with the management of state property and with the colony's financial contributions to the public works of the Federation. This legislation comes into force within two months, unless previously vetoed by the Governor-General. The Council also has the right to deliberate the assessment and collection of

22: Winterbotham et al. K-4 (no date) 1944 MS37 Senegal MS 37

646 taxes and all items of the Colonial Budget not fixed by the Governor-
[648] General.
[652] Article 40 of the decree of 1920 forbade any deliberation of political
[647] matters and any resolution concerning them. The power to discuss the budget, however, has nullified this prohibition, and criticism of the Government plays a considerable part in the Council's debates.
[631] The citizens are usually more independent than the chiefs, since the latter owe their appointments to the Governor. It is too early to judge the effect of the recent addition of subjects.

It will be clear from the foregoing that this Colonial Council
[642] performs a very useful function. Although it cannot bring the machinery of government to a standstill, it can seriously hamper the administration. In consequence Senegal has a greater tincture of democracy than any other colony.

Territorial Divisions

635 The colony is divided into fifteen provinces (Fig. 52), some of
● 634 them subdivided into districts. Their names and the names of their headquarters towns are as follows.

Province	*Headquarters*	*Area in square miles*	*District headquarters*
Bakel	Bakel	8,755	..
Baol	Diourbel	1,714	..
Bas Sénégal	St. Louis	2,351	Dagana
Bignona	Bignona	1,699	Diouloulou
Djoloff	Linguère	6,275	..
Haute Gambie	Kédougou	5,212	..
Kolda	Kolda	5,599	..
Louga	Louga	3,886	..
Matam	Matam	10,116	..
Podor	Podor	4,857	..
Sedhiou	Sedhiou	2,703	..
Sine-Saloum	Kaolack	10,228	Fatik, Foundiougne, Kaffrine
Tambacounda	Tambacounda	9,098	..
Thiès	Thiès	2,707	M'Bour, Tivaouane
Ziguinchor	Ziguinchor	1,120	Oussouye

635 The four provinces of Bignona, Kolda, Sedhiou, and Ziguinchor are grouped together as the Casamance Territory, at the head of which is a Session Administrator, or Chief Commissioner, residing at Ziguinchor.

In almost all provinces the provincial Commissioner is assisted by a Council of Notables (Plate 113).

/92/

I. General Information

131 a) Geographical survey. The circle /cercle, an ad-
134 ministrative district/ of Sine-Saloum is a vast region of 26,000 square kilometers in area. It is one of the most important parts of the colony of Senegal. It is a heavily populated region. Finally, it has an economic value greater than that of the other territories which, together with it, constitute the Government of Senegal in French West Africa.

Bounded on the west by the Atlantic Ocean, it touches on the upper basin of the Gambia to the east and therefore on the very borders of the western Sudan, from which it is separated only by the circle of Tambacounda.

To the north, it reaches the desert of the Ferlo and the Djoloff region.

Along the entire southern part, its frontier runs along the territory of the British colony of Gambia, following precisely the parallel 13° 35' 36", conforming to the delimitation of the International Commission of 1891.

Such are its geographic limits.

133 A great navigable route crosses it from east to west, ending at the ocean; this is the Saloum River, which today is no more than a long maritime channel, narrow in its upper part, which the mud ruins by obstructing it, and ending in a vast estuary with a thousand /93/ ramifications, bordered by banks of sand and providing passage for ocean-going vessels at the place called Pointe de Sangomar, where there is a very narrow and not very deep passage. At low tide, in fact, the depths there are only three and a half to four meters. Under the influence of the trade winds and the tide race, the bar is subject to displacements which the hydrographic
[502] service rectifies by a series of buoys which is continued even
[361] beyond the estuary and up to Kaolack, a port about 100 kilometers from the coast.

[505] In this sea arm of the Saloum, the tide makes its effects felt almost to Birkelane, 130 kilometers from the ocean. The

SR 645 /98 cont./ there was the Grand Farba, a slave of the crown, who performed the functions of head of the army. There was also the Farba Birkeur, or court minister, and a series of dignitaries for various jobs, up to the court jester or Bissète.

S SR 175 648 The first attempts at French colonization in this part of Senegal date back to 1859, the date of the first military expedition into Sine-Saloum. In 1875, we concluded a treaty of alliance and trade with the king of Saloum, but the provisions were never observed by the native chiefs.

Governor Faidherbe explored the country and carried on reconnaissance as far as Kaolack. Following this demonstration he made a new treaty with the Bour Saloum in 1859. This agreement, like the preceding one, remained a dead letter, and it was necessary to organize an expedition in February 1861. Major Pinet-Laprade was given the command.

The marabout, a warrior of the Toucouleur race, Ma Ba, installed at Nioro-Rip, rose up against our arms.

In 1865 his activities forced us to throw a column into Rip.

Defeated by us, he nevertheless held us in check until 1867, when he was killed in the battle of Somb.

His brother, Mamour Dary, was only able to resist us weakly. Upon his death, Saër Maty resumed hostilities, seizing Kahone, the capital of Saloum.

His power becoming troublesome, an expedition /99/ was deemed necessary. It took place in April 1887, under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Coronnat.

Nioro was taken, and on May 14, 1887, a treaty was signed with the chiefs of Saloum, placing Saloum, Niom, and Rip under our protection.

S [634] An administrator was placed at Foundiougne, and a circle was created.

In 1891, treaties made with the kings of Sine and Saloum secured our authority definitively throughout the country.

The administrative organization was then set up gradually and without difficulties.

23: Aujas--10 G-5 (no date) 1929 MS37 Senegal MS37

/Between 100 and 101/

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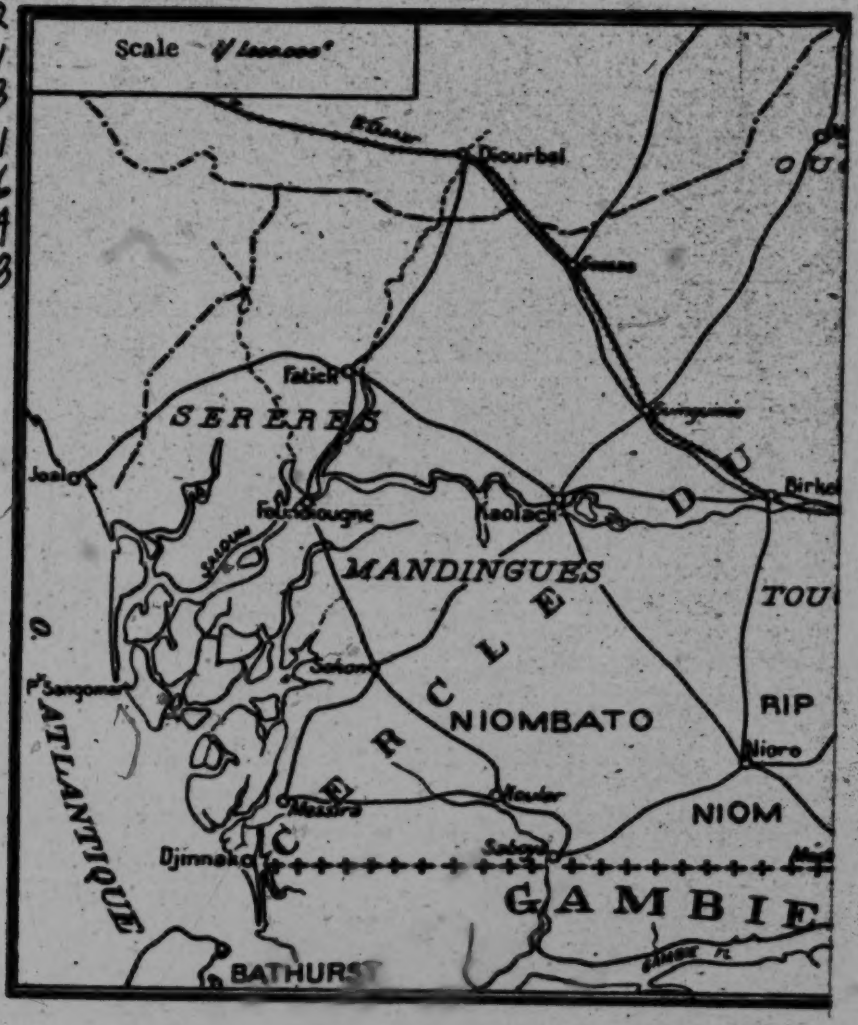

Circle of Sine Saloum

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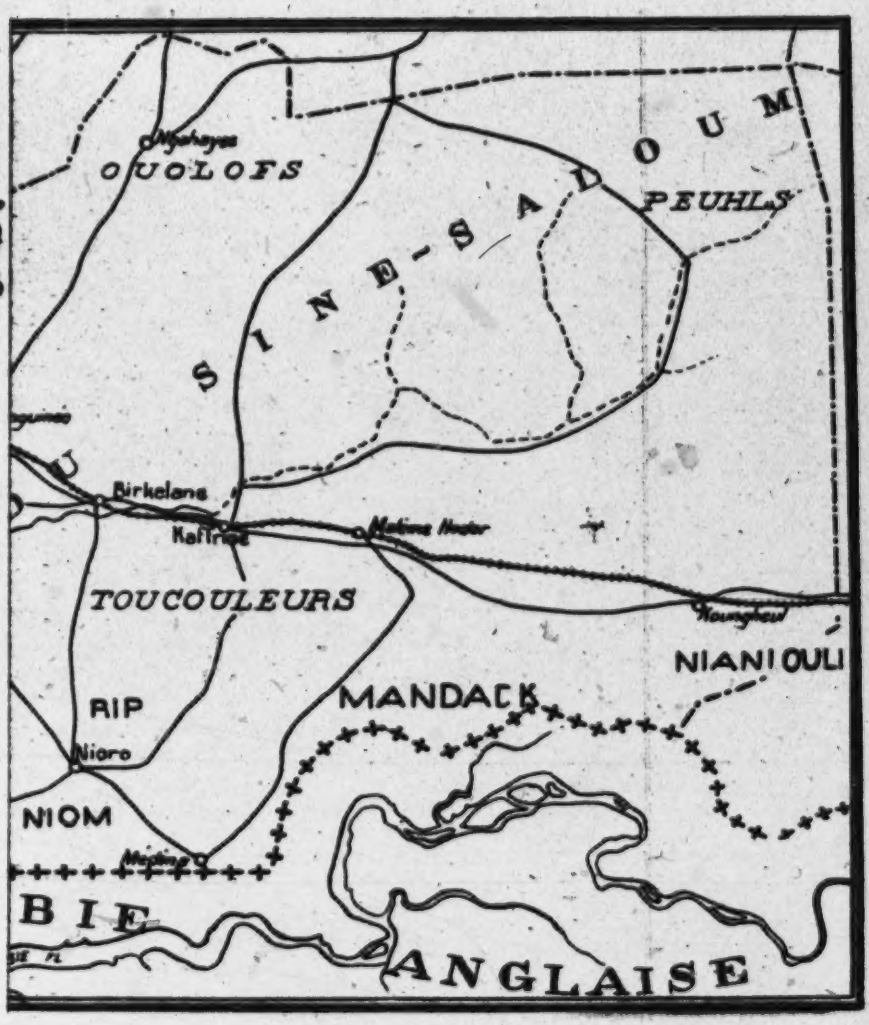

Circle of Sine Saloum

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/101 cont./

134 everywhere the terrain is suitable for the cultivation of groundnuts, except in Bas-Saloum.

137 A very dense, thorny, and shrubby vegetation grows in the sandy soil. This is the region of the cades (Acacia albida). In the silico-argillaceous lands of the south and east, the vegetation is more vigorous; one still finds there at the present time interesting forest stocks, vestiges of the great forests of former times. These groves are on the way to disappearing as a result of the abuses of clearing and of the unfortunately too frequent fires. The forests of Patako, between Messira and Coular, and of Dasilamé, between Nioro and Médina, which contain many hardwoods, Gambian mahogany, vène, and hire, are to be protected.

II. Administrative Organization

634 Territorial divisions. The two large native commands of Sine and Saloum have been eliminated, and the title of Bour, which was only honorific in nature, has ceased to exist legally.

632 634 The circle is divided into three major administrative subdivisions:

1st, Subdivision of Sine, chief town Fatick;

2nd, Subdivision of Bas-Saloum, with Foundiougne as the chief town;

3rd, Subdivision of Saloum Oriental, chief town Kaolack.

An administrator is at the head of the circle, and each subdivision is commanded by an official of the corps of administrators or of the corps of civil services.

632 Divided among these three subdivisions are 19 cantons or native commands, each /102/ of which is headed by a canton chief.

The subdivision of Saloum Oriental has 11 cantons:

Kaolack-Laghem,
Kahone,
Diokoul-Gandiaye,
Gossas,
Niom-Rip,
Nioro-Rip,